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ed in the year 1611, and is the finest Gothic building I ever beheld. Though the proprietor is non-resident, it seems in thorough repair; it is newly whitened; but was it allowed to sink into a proper state of decay, it might pass for an erection of several hundreds of years antecedent to the period when it was built, from the style of its architecture. Near the castle are stables, and other offices, which though built within these dozen of years, are planned in a more antique style than even the castle; they are built round two courts, one within the other, and are entered by a gateway, over which is a watch-tower.

There is a gradual ascent to the high grounds above Belfast. We passed near the Cave hill, which is a grotesque arrangement of rocks, caves, heath, and limestone. We thence began our descent to the shore, which seemed to be immediately beneath us, though about three miles distant. From this place the prospect is delightful: the town and harbour are seen in full perspective; the ships "spreading their white sails to the breeze;" boats skimming with velocity the smooth surface of the water, on the opposite side of which the county of Down hills rise with a sloping ascent, and Scrabo is seen proudly overtopping the rest. Several white villas are interspersed, and the village of Hollywood variegates the scene. To the right, the smoke of Belfast seems suspended in air, like a blue mist, through which the steeples of the church and the poor-house first strike the eye; then are seen the glass-houses; and the masts of ships, like a wood of tall trees, deprived of their leaves by the wintry blast. The sight then wanders over the various buildings which compose this flourishing and improving town, every view of which, in every direction, speaks commercial prosperity.

LYDIA,

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

WE have with some difficulty obtained the Reports from the Commissioners of the Board of Education in Ireland, presented to the House of Commons; which in a former number we promised to procure for our

readers. We now give the first report. There are two more reports, for which we design to find room in our future numbers. They are accompanied with a large appendix, from which we probably shall select for our readers as we find opportunity; and also make such observations on them as an attentive perusal of the whole may suggest.

*To his Grace Charles Duke of Richmond, lord lieutenant general and general governor of Ireland.*

*A Report by the Commissioners for inquiring into the state of all Schools on public charitable foundations, in Ireland.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

WE, the undersigned Commissioners, respectively nominated, appointed, and elected, under the provisions of an act of parliament passed in the forty-sixth year of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled, "An act to revive and amend an act made in the Parliament of Ireland, for enabling the Lord Lieutenant to appoint Commissioners for inquiring into the several funds and revenues granted for the purposes of Education, and into the state and condition of all Schools in Ireland;"—in pursuance of the powers vested in us by the said act, having met, commenced our inquiry with an investigation of the present state of the funds of "*The Free Schools of Royal Foundation*;" and having examined and inquired into the annual value of all lands, tenements, and hereditaments granted and belonging to these endowments, and having also examined and inquired into the present state and condition of these schools, and school-houses, the number of scholars in said schools, and into the conduct of the several masters thereof; and into the amount of the annual income, profits and salaries paid and payable to them respectively: We beg leave, pursuant to the provisions of the said act of parliament, to report to your Grace the result of our inquiries.

The schools which are the subject of our present report, namely the free-schools of Arinagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, Raphoe, Cavan, Banagher and Carysfort, were founded and endowed by King Charles the First, at two different periods.

King Charles, in the second year of his reign, granted very considerable tracts of land, lying and being in the counties of Armagh, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Donegal, and Cavan, to the Archbishop of Armagh, and his successors for ever, in trust, for the sole and proper behoof and use of the respective masters of five free schools in the several counties and places mentioned in the charter.

And afterwards in the fourth year of his reign, in the respective charters for incorporating the boroughs of Banagher in the King's county, and of Carysford in the county of Wicklow, he granted certain lands in those counties to the Sovereigns and Burgesses of those boroughs, and their successors for ever, in trust, for the only use and behoof of a school-master to reside and teach in each of those towns.

We now proceed to lay before your grace, our report upon each of these schools in their order: and in our report upon the present state of them, we have made our observations, and have suggested such present improvements and future application of the funds of some of these schools, as appear to us best calculated to render more effectual the original purposes of these endowments; these we also submit to your grace's wisdom and consideration.

#### SCHOOL OF ARMAGH.

The lands with which the school of Armagh is endowed, contain, as appears by the last survey, made in the year 1771, fifteen hundred and thirty acres, English measure, including roads, lakes, rivers, and also about one hundred acres of bog. The lands are situated in the county of Armagh, between the towns of Newry and Armagh. It appears that these lands produced, in the year 1804, the gross annual rent of eleven hundred and forty four pounds ten shillings and five pence halfpenny; and that after making certain deductions, amounting to the sum of one hundred and sixty-nine pounds seven shillings and eight pence (the particulars of which are set forth in the evidence of the master of the school) the net annual rent received by the present master was nine hundred and seventy-five pounds two shillings and

ten pence. It has, however, been represented to us by the master, that this rent was likely to rise, from the first of May, 1806, to the sum of one thousand and forty-three pounds four shillings and six-pence half-penny net.

These school lands have been let at different times by the primate, and by his two immediate predecessors, under the provisions of the act of parliament 11th and 12th of George the 3d, chapter 17th, to different persons, in trust for the masters of the school: and on the first of May 1804, were let in trust to Hector Graham, esq. for twenty-one year, reserving an annual rent of six hundred pounds for the master and his successors, during the continuance of the lease. It appears also that these leases have at different times been renewed upon the payment of a fine, at the rate of one hundred pounds per annum, which fine has been appropriated to the repairs of the buildings belonging to the foundation; and that the last renewal made for the present master, took place in May 1806.

It also appears that there is a charge upon the endowment of seven hundred and seventy-one pounds, to be paid to the representatives of the present master, being three-fourths of the sum of one thousand and seventy-eight pounds paid by him to his predecessor, Doctor Gruebere, for money expended in building the master's house. The remaining expense, of erecting the school house and the other buildings belonging to the foundation, was defrayed partly by the primate Robinson, who advanced three thousand pounds for that purpose, and partly by Dr. Gruebere, the then master, who expended the additional sum of one thousand pounds, in consideration of which he procured the trust lease to be made for his benefit.

The buildings belonging to this endowment, which were completed in the year 1772, at an expense of above five thousand pounds, and which are very spacious and commodious, comprise a school-house, a house for the master's residence, and offices. The school house is capable of containing from eighty to an hundred boarders. These buildings, which are situated near the town of Armagh, are stated to us to be in excellent repair, except-

ing the flooring of the school-rooms, which is wearing out. There were in January last eighty-seven boarders, and twenty-nine day-scholars at the school. The terms for boarders are, thirty two guineas per annum, and six guineas entrance; and for day-scholars, four guineas per annum, and one guinea entrance.

The present master, the Rev. Thomas Carpendale, A. M. was appointed by primate Robinson, in the year 1786 to be master of the school during good behaviour. He was appointed master upon the resignation of Dr. Gruebere, who resigned to Mr. Carpendale, upon the condition of receiving two hundred and fifty pounds per annum during his life. Mr. Carpendale afterwards, in the year 1792, purchased Dr. Gruebere's interest in his trust lease, and paid the sum of two thousand pounds to Dr. Gruebere for the same. From this period the lease has been constantly renewed to Mr. Carpendale's trustee, and upon the first renewal to him in that year, a fine of six hundred pounds was paid by Mr. Carpendale to primate Robinson, six years of the trust lease for Dr. Gruebere being then expired.

Mr. Carpendale has four classical assistants for his school; the three first at salaries of sixty pounds per annum each, the fourth at fifty pounds per annum. The principal assistant has his board and lodging in the school-house; the other three are provided by the master with dinner only, and have lodgings in the town.

Mr. Carpendale appears to us to have paid, during the whole time that he has been master, the closest and most laudable attention to the duties of his school; and no school in this country maintains a higher reputation than that of Armagh. Mr. Carpendale is one of the vicars of the cathedral of Armagh, and has no other church preferment.

#### DUNGANNON SCHOOL.

The school of Dungannon is endowed with lands situated about five miles from the town, containing above sixteen hundred acres English. They are let at present to under-tenants, for fourteen hundred and eighty one pounds four shillings and nine pence per an-

num, by the son of the present master, who holds them under a trust lease for his father's benefit, at the reserved rent of seven hundred and ninety-six pounds twelve shillings. Such a lease appears to have been first granted in the year 1785. when the present master had the lands valued at five hundred and seventy pounds per annum, and procured the lease for his trustee from the then primate, at the reserved rent of four hundred and twenty seven pounds ten shillings, paying a fine of twelve hundred and thirty-five pounds, which was applied towards building a school-house.

This lease appears to have been renewed in the year 1795, at the same reserved rent, and a fine of three hundred and fifty-four pounds eight shillings was then paid for the renewal, which is also stated to have been expended on building; it was afterwards renewed every year, for four years, at the same rent, and a fine at each renewal, of twenty three pounds six shillings and eight-pence paid.

Of these fines for four years, the two first are also stated to have been applied to the same purpose; of the two last, for the year 1798 and 1799, amounting to forty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence, we have received no account.

From the year 1799 there was no renewal until the year 1804, when the lands were new valued by order of the present primate, and a new lease granted at the above-mentioned reserved rent of seven hundred and ninety-six pounds twelve shillings, on the payment of a fine of six hundred pounds, which is in the primate's hands, together with a fine of one hundred and six pounds four shillings and three-pence, paid on the renewal of the lease in 1806, at the same reserved rent. This last renewal was granted by the primate, on its being represented to him, that the rent of the lands had not been raised above the annual gross value set upon them in the year 1804, which was twelve hundred and seventy-four pounds eleven shillings and one penny.

The present master, the Reverend William Murray, D. D. was appointed by primate Robinson, du-

ring good behaviour, in the year 1778. He states, that he has expended on building a school-house, a house for the master, and necessary offices, the sum of three thousand one hundred and twenty pounds twelve shillings and three half-pence. Of this sum sixteen hundred and thirty-six pounds one shilling and four pence appeared to have been produced by the fines on granting and renewing leases; nine hundred and nine pounds twelve shillings is a charge upon the endowment, being the amount of two years income, calculated on the first reserved rent of four hundred and twenty-seven pounds ten shillings; to which is added the value of the demesne lands (as they are called) of nine acres and sixteen perches near the house, and estimated at twenty-seven pounds six shillings per annum. The balance of expenditure in favour of the master appears from this statement to be five hundred and seventy-four pounds eighteen shillings and nine pence halfpenny: but to this balance he relinquished his claim, on the grant of the new lease in the year one thousand eight hundred and four.

The school-house is stated to be capable of accommodating sixty-four boarders, and to be at present in exceedingly good repair. The school-room and play-ground appear to be too small, the dimensions of the former being thirty-six feet by twenty, and the latter containing a space of only sixty yards by forty four.

There were, in January last, twenty-seven boarders in the house (exclusive of four who had been some time absent on account of sickness) and twelve day scholars. The terms for boarders are twenty-six guineas per annum, and five guineas entrance; and for day-scholars a guinea per quarter, and a guinea entrance. There are usually two classical assistants in the school, to whom the master pays fifty pounds per annum, with diet and lodging in the house.

Dr. Murray states, that he has always attended in person the duties of his school, and that he has no church preferment.

It is necessary, however, to add, that from age, and the decay of his

memory, he is at present, and appears for some time to have been wholly inadequate to the conduct of such a seminary; and we think it our duty to recommend that measures should be taken immediately for procuring a more efficient master.

#### ENNISKILLEN SCHOOL.

The school lands of Enniskillen school appear, by a survey taken in the year 1795, to contain about three thousand three hundred and sixty acres English, of which two thousand five hundred and forty-eight are arable and pasture, and are situated about six or eight miles from the town; there is no lease of them at present in existence, nor has been since the appointment of the present master, the Rev. Robert Burrowes, D. D. The tenants pay their rents according to a letting made by the late master's brother, who held the lands under a trust lease for his, the master's benefit, granted by the then primate (Newcome) at the reserved rent of eight hundred pounds per annum, with a covenant for renewal fines, at the rate of one hundred pounds per annum; they were then let to under-tenants for fourteen hundred and sixty one pounds per annum, which is the rent now paid; but the trust lease having been surrendered before the appointment of the present master, the leases to the under-tenants of course became void, and no new ones have been since granted.

Dr. Burrowes states, that if they were now to be let, there would be a considerable rise of rent. His appointment is dated January the 24th, 1798, and is during pleasure. He receives the whole of the rents, together with ten pounds per annum for a house in Enniskillen, which was the old school-house; and five pounds per annum, paid by lord Enniskillen.

The new school-house is a spacious building, capable of accommodating seventy boarders, and is stated to be in good repair. There is a demesne of thirty-three acres attached to the house, not included in the survey. There is a charge upon the endowment for building, of thirteen hundred pounds, being half of the original charge of two years income expended by the last

master but one (Mr. Noble). The number of boarders at the school in January last, was sixty-five, and of day scholars from twelve to sixteen.

The terms for boarders are thirty-two guineas per annum, and six guineas entrance; and for day-scholars six guineas, and one guinea and a half entrance.

Doctor Burrowes sates, that he has presented a memorial to the primate, for permission to build considerable additions to the house and offices which his grace is disposed to grant, with leave to charge the usual proportion of the sum laid out on the succeeding masters.

Dr. Burrowes has three classical assistants (who all live in the school-house) and pays the first one hundred pounds per annum, and the other two forty pounds each. He has constantly attended in person to the duties of the school, which he appears to have discharged with equal diligence and ability, and the school is accordingly, and has been since his appointment, in considerable reputation. Dr. Burrowes had till lately the living of Cappagh, in the diocese of Derry, which he has recently exchanged for that of Drumrigh in the same diocese (both in the presentation of Trinity College, Dublin, of which he had formerly been fellow). He resigned the archdeaconry of Ferns, on his being appointed master of the school of Enniskillen.

The endowment of this school is unquestionably much too large to be enjoyed by the master alone; when the lands are new let (as it appears to us they ought to be) there is little doubt of their producing two thousand pounds per annum and upwards. A quarter of this sum would, in our opinion, be a sufficient allowance to the head master. Another quarter, we think, would be advantageously applied to the foundation of second and third masterships, at three hundred and two hundred pounds per annum. A great part of the remainder should, in our opinion, be employed in the maintenance of scholars on the foundation, agreeably to the original intention in the establishment of these institutions, which are expressly denominated "Free schools." A plan for this purpose had been sub-

mitted to the late government of Ireland, by Dr. Burrowes, who is willing, on the ground of implied future compensation, that a part of his present income should be so applied. Such a plan, on a larger scale, should, we think, be digested and prepared before another vacancy of the mastership, and adopted on the appointment of the next master; it should be so limited, however, as to leave a sufficient fund for the repairs of the school-house, and perhaps for the erection of other buildings, as they should be found wanting. In the mean time it may be worth consideration, whether Dr. Burrowes' plan, with such modifications as might adapt it for further extension and permanent establishment, should not be immediately carried into execution, as the commencement of a system hereafter to be introduced, as circumstances will allow, into all the other schools of royal foundation. The establishment of second and third masterships, we also consider to be of indispensable necessity in the other schools; the present condition and appointments of under teachers in *all* of them without exception, are such as must ever discourage men of real merit and liberal minds from engaging in that occupation. We need not urge the importance of such men being employed in the under departments of every classical school, as well for the purpose of effectual instruction, as to supply a succession of well qualified head masters; and we are persuaded the acknowledged inferiority of the grammar schools in Ireland to those of the sister island, is to be ascribed to no other circumstance so much, as to the deficiency of those who are usually engaged as assistants, and employed in teaching the rudiments of classical learning. The head masters of some of our great schools, are men of eminent literature and talents, and only want the assistance of properly qualified teachers (which on the present system they are not able to procure) to raise their schools to as high and well deserved reputation as any in England. The funds of others of the royal schools (especially if relieved from the trust leases) would also be adequate to the maintenance of foundation scholars.

## RAPHOE SCHOOL.

The lands belonging to the school of Raphoe, are situate in the western part of the county of Donegal, niteen miles from Raphoe, and four from the town of Donegal, on the great road from Londonderry to Sligo.

By a survey produced to us, it appears, that the lands contain five thousand nine hundred and forty-six acres, of which number, eleven hundred and fourteen are profitable, the remainder bogs and mountain. These lands abound with limestone; and it is stated to us, that the arable parts are tilled as much as they will bear, without greater efforts to manure them than the tenants, who are poor and very numerous, are disposed to make.

The reverend James Irwin, A. B. is the present master. He was appointed by government in the month of September 1796, during pleasure.

We find that in November 1798, he let the lands which constitute the endowment of the school, for ten years (provided his incumbency should so long continue) to one hundred and thirty tenants, at the yearly rent of six hundred and thirty-nine pounds. Two farms, producing ninety pounds per annum, and included in the above, are let by him during his incumbency.

Mr. Irwin has stated, that his predecessor leased these lands, some time after his appointment in one thousand seven hundred and seventy-one, at the yearly rent of three hundred and twenty eight pounds; he thinks the lands at present worth seven hundred and fifty pounds per annum, yet he collects the present rent with difficulty, on account of the number and poverty of the tenants. Mr. Irwin receives the whole of the rents, and there is at present no charge upon the endowment.

The school-house, which is in the town of Raphoe, can at present accommodate forty boarders, and, when certain improvements which are intended by the master shall be completed, will, as he informed us, be capable of accommodating seventy. The master further stated to us, that he has memorialled for the expenditure of twelve hundred pounds upon additional build-

ings, repairs and alterations, having found the house and offices in a ruinous state, from ten years non-residence of his predecessor; and that he has already expended a thousand pounds in improvements, and proposes to complete those intended, in the course of the present summer.

Mr. Irwin has also stated, that the house, offices, garden and play-ground do not occupy an entire acre; and that the play-ground does not contain more than half a rood. This, in our opinion, should be enlarged; but as there is no land appertaining to the endowment in the town of Raphoe, and as the site of the school-house is encompassed by roads, and by the offices and farm-yard of the see-house of Raphoe, the master thinks an enlargement of the play-ground cannot be easily effected.

The number of Mr. Irwin's scholars, when we examined him in January last, was thirty-five; of these, eight only were boarders in the school-house; the remainder were boarded either in the town, or at farmers' houses in the vicinity, where the terms are cheaper. Three of his scholars included in the above number, are instructed *gratis*. The terms of this school are twenty-six guineas per annum for board and tuition, and five guineas entrance; and four guineas per annum, and one guinea entrance for day-scholars. There is but one regular usher, at a salary of thirty pounds per annum only; and Mr. Irwin states, that three of his sons, who have entered college, assist him as ushers in their turns.

Mr. Irwin has two church preferments, that of Castle Connor in the diocese of Ossory, and the living of Almoritia in the diocese of Meath. He states, that he attends sedulously and constantly to the duties of his school, and that it is increasing.

## CAVAN SCHOOL.

It appears by a survey made in the year 1805, during the administration and by direction of Earl Hardwicke, that the lands granted for the endowment of the school of Cavan consist of 570 acres two roods and seventeen perches Irish plantation measure, situate in the county of Cavan, near the town, and part of

them within three quarters of a mile of it; these lands, as it has been stated to us, were let by Doctor Cottingham, the late master, at the annual rent of five hundred and thirty-six pounds eight shillings; and the present value of the lands is about nine hundred pounds per annum.

We find there never has been any school-house belonging to the Endowment, nor is any part of the school lands well adapted to such a purpose. A school was kept by Doctor Cottingham, or those employed by him, in a house rented by him, and since converted into a barrack. In fact there has been no efficient school-master, since the death of a Mr. Arbuthnot, an usher employed by Doctor Cottingham. Mr. Arbuthnot died in June 1803. Doctor Cottingham's age and infirmities had rendered him incapable of personal attendance to the duties of his school for many years previous to his death, which took place on the 25th of March 1804.

It appears, that on the 21st of March 1806, the Reverend John Moore, A. M. was appointed master of this school by the earl of Hardwicke, subject to certain conditions, contained in an agreement dated the 20th of March 1806, and which is set forth in his evidence. By the terms of this agreement, Mr. Moore was to receive three hundred pounds per annum out of the rents for his own use, and an hundred pounds per annum for the salary of an assistant, from the 25th of March 1806. It was stipulated with Mr. Moore, that the arrears from the death of Doctor Cottingham until his appointment, and also the surplus of the rents at which the lands were then let, as well as of the improved rent upon any new letting, over and above the said allowance of four hundred pounds per annum, should be applied towards forming a fund for building a proper school house, upon such site as should be approved of. It appears, that on the 25th of March 1806, there was due by the several tenants on the lands, the sum of one thousand and seventy two pounds sixteen shillings, being two years rent, according to the rate at which they were let by Doctor Cottingham. We find that

of this arrear, only three hundred and sixty-one pounds nine shillings and three halfpence was collected on the 10th of January last, the day on which Mr. Moore was examined by the Commissioners; and a sum of four hundred and thirty-eight pounds nineteen shillings and four pence halfpenny since. These two sums, of three hundred and sixty-one pounds nine shillings and three halfpence, and four hundred and thirty-eight pounds nineteen shillings and four pence halfpenny (subject to the deductions of agent's fees) have been received by the present master. It does not, however, appear that any sum has been as yet paid towards the fund intended to be created for building of a school-house, but the master has stated to us, that he considers himself as holding the sum received, in trust for that purpose, in the event of the agreement of the 20th of March being enforced.

We find that no new agreement was made with the tenants in possession, for the first two years and upwards after the death of Doctor Cottingham, but that from the 1st of May 1806, they agreed to pay annual rents, amounting to seven hundred and sixty-five pounds seven shillings and eleven pence, until the rent at which the lands were to be let on lease could be finally settled.

The lands, according to the evidence given before us, are at present in a very wretched state, which has been imputed to the uncertainty of the tenure; Doctor Cottingham's life, on the expiration of which the leases determined, having for thirty years back been deemed extremely precarious.

From the foregoing statement it appears, that there was a gross sum of one thousand and seventy pounds sixteen shillings (subject to deductions for agency) payable by the tenants on the twenty-fifth of March 1806, and applicable to the fund to be set apart for building a school-house; and that on the first of May, 1807, a further sum of three hundred and sixty-five pounds seven shillings and eleven pence (subject to like deductions) became due and applicable to the increase of the same fund;



making together the sum of fourteen hundred and thirty-eight pounds three shillings and eleven pence: and further, that from the 1st of May 1807, about four hundred pounds annually will be applicable to the same purpose. But as a large sum of money, probably not less than five thousand pounds, will be required to erect a school-house, dwelling house for the master, and apartments for the accommodation of boarders, suitable to such an endowment, the period at which the revenues of the school can be rendered effectual for the purposes for which they were granted, must be very remote, if no other mode shall be resorted to, to create a building fund, besides that of the annual accumulation of the surplus Rents.

The mode pointed out by the act of the 11th and 12th George the 3d, is certainly liable to considerable objections.

First, the difficulty of ascertaining the proper rent to be reserved to the master and his successors, in such a way as to preclude litigation, or prejudice to the funds of the school.

Secondly, the uncertainty of the fund arising from fines on renewal, which by said act are made applicable to repairs and building. For if the persons taking such leases are bound by a covenant to renew, the covenant must be reciprocal, and the fine a stipulated sum, which in the event of a rise in the value of the lands would be prejudicial to the interests of the endowment; if, on the other hand, they are not so bound, the renewal being then optional, the fund applicable by the act for repairs may be suspended for twenty-one years.

However, as the law stands at present, no other mode occurs for raising the sum necessary for building, except that of a trust lease, in pursuance of the provisions of the act above-mentioned. It may, however, be here necessary to remark, that the law in this respect may require some revision, and is in other respects extremely defective, so far as these schools are concerned, there being no visitors appointed to inspect them, and no effectual power lodged anywhere to controul or regulate the ap-

plication of the revenues of these endowments for the advancement of education; the whole of the rents, where no trust lease has been made, and the rent reserved to the master and his successors, where such a trust lease has been executed, being the sole property of the master on his appointment.

As the endowment of Cavan school is now circumstanced, and in consequence of the difficulties under which the present master will labour, should a trust lease be thought advisable, we would recommend that only one hundred pounds per annum should at present be appropriated for the salary of an assistant for the school; but at a future period, we think, a second and a third assistant may be deemed advisable, at such suitable salaries as the funds of this endowment may be then able to bear.

#### BANAGHER SCHOOL.

King Charles the first, by a charter bearing date the sixteenth of September, in the fourth year of his reign, granted to the Sovereign, Burgesses, and free Commons of the Borough of Banagher, and their successors for ever, certain lands in the King's County, particularly described in the charter, and containing in the whole two hundred acres of arable land and pasture, and eighty-five acres of wood and moor, to the only use and behoof of such schoolmaster as the lord deputy or other chief governor or governors of Ireland should from time to time appoint to reside and teach in the said town of Banagher; and for want of such schoolmaster there to be appointed as aforesaid, then to the use of the sovereign, and burgesses, and their successors for ever, towards the maintenance of a free school in the said town of Banagher, and of such schoolmaster as they or the greatest number of them shall appoint, until another schoolmaster shall be appointed by the lord deputy.

The lands belonging to this school are situate in the barony of Eglishe, between four and eight miles from the town of Banagher; they were let in the year 1790, by the honourable and reverend Richard Ponsonby, the late master, at the yearly rent of one

hundred and sixty-five pounds thirteen shillings.

There is not, nor has there been at any time, that we can discover, any school-house belonging to the endowment, nor does it appear that any school has been kept at Banagher for several years. Upon our referring to the examination of the reverend Richard Warburton, a former master, taken in the year 1788, before the commissioners then appointed to enquire into the state of the funds granted for the purposes of education in Ireland, we find that great encroachments had been made on the school lands; and that at the time of said examination, their contents were reduced from two hundred and eighty-five acres, the number mentioned in the charter, to two hundred and four.

The present master, the reverend Thomas Morris, A. M. was appointed by patent during pleasure, on the 18th of September 1806.

Mr. Morris, by our order, caused a survey of the lands to be made in June last, by which it appears, that the school lands at present consist of only two hundred and eight acres thirty-two perches; so that nearly seventy-seven acres of the original grant are now lost to this endowment by the encroachments of the neighbouring landholders, and by the negligence of former masters.

Mr. Morris has stated to us, that he has taken two contiguous houses in the town of Banagher, at a rent of one hundred and fifty-six pounds seventeen shillings and six pence, which is nearly equal to the present annual produce of the lands. These houses, which he has taken for the temporary accommodation of himself and his scholars, he has represented as well calculated for the purposes of a school, being a spacious concern, with an extensive terrace, a garden, and three acres of land adjoining, and of which a lease for ever has been promised him. But as this contract is the mere private agreement of the master, and as the endowment is but small, and as this foundation is not included in the act of parliament, that authorizes the making a trust lease for the purpose of raising a sum of money for building, it seems a

matter worthy of the consideration of your grace, whether, in order to give efficacy and permanence to this establishment, it would not be advisable to assist the master in purchasing this concern, or obtaining a lease for ever of it, in order that it may be made the school-house of the endowment. And we beg leave to recommend Mr. Morris's memorial to the primate, stating the difficulties under which he labours, to the consideration of your grace.

#### CARYSFORT SCHOOL.

The school of Carysfort in the county of Wicklow was founded also by king Charles the first, who in the fourth year of his reign, by a charter dated the 21st of August, granted to the sovereign and burgesses of the town of Carysfort two hundred acres of arable land, and ninety-seven acres of bog and mountain, to the only use of such school-master as the deputy or other chief governor or governors of Ireland shall appoint to reside and teach in the said town of Carysfort.

The present master, the reverend sir Thomas Forster, Baronet, was appointed on the eighteenth of March one thousand eight hundred and six, by patent, during good behaviour. The lands were let on the eleventh of April one thousand eight hundred and five, by the late master, the reverend Henry Lambert Bayley, for the term of thirty-one years, from the 25th of March preceding (provided his interest lasted so long) to one tenant, of the name of Andrew Carter, at the yearly rent of one hundred pounds, with a covenant to accept of eighty pounds per annum in lieu of said hundred, provided a free school be kept on said lands by the tenant.

These lands are situate near the town of Carysfort, in the parish of Rathdrum and county of Wicklow. It appears by a survey made in May last by our order, that the lands contain eighty-two acres under meadow and tillage, and two hundred acres of coarse pasture and mountain; making together three hundred and thirty-six acres, being thirty-nine more than is mentioned in the grant.

There has never been any school-house or residence for the master attached to this endowment; there

is an old school-room, which about fifty boys attend in summer, but not above a dozen in winter.

It further appears, that sir Thomas Forster has two church livings, one in the diocese of Armagh, and the other in the Diocese of Dublin, contiguous to the school lands of Carysfort, but does not attend the duties of the school in person, nor reside at Carysfort.

We trust that no instance will occur in future, of any persons being appointed to be masters of public schools, or being suffered to continue to hold those situations, unless they reside and discharge the duties thereof in person.

The mode in which the income of this endowment could be best applied, seems to be the establishment of a large day-school for the instruction of the poor; the funds would be sufficient for the payment of a master, and for supplying the school with books and stationery, and also for keeping any school-house and school-room, which may be erected, in proper repair; and a small sum would be sufficient to provide the necessary accommodation for the residence of the master, and the reception of his day-scholars. But the present revenues of the school do not appear adequate to such a supply.

*Council Chm. July 9, 1807.*

WILLIAM ARMAGH. (L.S.)

G. HALL PROVOST. (L.S.)

JAS. VERSCHOYLE, (L.S.)

Dean of St. Patrick's

RICH. LOVELL EDGEWORTH. (L.S.)

JAS. WHITELAW. (L.S.)

Vicar of St. Catherine.

WILLIAM DISNEY. (L.S.)

*A Correct Copy,*

J. CORNEILLE,

Secy. to the Commissioners.

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

I HAVE long been of opinion, that suitable food and clothing, are often of greater service in curing the diseases of the poor, than drugs. I once heard a physician reply to a surgeon of an infirmary or dispensary, who complained that many patients laboured under dyspeptic complaints, or diseases arising from indigestion, "Give them brogues and stockings, they are the best remedies." I was much pleased to see in a London paper, the following

plan of a Dietetic Medical dispensary, and request you may subjoin an extract from their advertisement, for the information of your readers.

A GLEANER.

#### DIETETIC MEDICAL DISPENSARY.

AT a numerous and respectable meeting, held at the London Coffee-house, the 12th May, 1809, Patrick Colquhoun, esq. L.L.D. in the chair.

Resolved—That it appears to this meeting, from returns laid before parliament, that of the whole number of poor persons in the metropolis, who receive parochial assistance in the workhouses, and otherwise, the proportion relieved at their own dwellings is nearly four to one; that permanent out-door relief is small, seldom averaging more per week than 2s. 6d. and that occasional out-door relief is of a still less amount; that mere parochial assistance, therefore, speaking generally, is very inadequate to the relief and comfort of the poor in sickness and disease; that the hospitals of the metropolis, benevolent and useful as they are, do not, and cannot relieve one-tenth part of the patients requiring their help; that about thirteen dispensaries have therefore been, at various times, established, but in all these it is the custom to distribute drugs alone; whereas, in thousands of instances, the only means of effecting a cure would be a nutritious and invigorating regimen; and that in almost every case it must be highly desirable to combine the use of such a regimen with the employment of common drugs.

Resolved—That on fully considering a report published by the society for bettering the condition of the poor, it appears to this meeting that it is perfectly easy and practicable to annex a Dietetic regimen, to a medical dispensary, at a very moderate expense, and without disturbing in any degree, the general economy of the system: since the soups, and other auxiliaries, which are proposed to give effect to drugs disposed to debilitated patients, can be prepared in the common kitchen of the house, without the least inconvenience. Vide the report, in which the whole benefits of the system are elucidated.

Resolved—That the facts above stated, are worthy the attention of this meeting, and of the public at large; and that a society be formed, and a committee appointed, for the purpose of establishing in the metropolis a NEW DISPENSARY, comprising not merely the distribution of medicines and drugs, but also a dietetic regimen, with flannel shirts and shifts for the diseased poor; and that such committee have power to add to their number.